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# The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1872.


The first competitive examination under the new rules of the Civil Service Commission, making appointments dependent on the qualifications of the candidates, took place in the New Haven Custom House, in which a vacancy existed, last Friday. The questions furnished the applicants for answer, although sufficiently difficult to test their ability, were of a practical nature, having reference chiefly to the duties to be performed by an inspector, which was the position to be filled. No inquiry was made as to the political sentiments of the candidates, but they were required to present proof of their good health and character, and of American citizenship. In what way the public interests would suffer—or rather in what way they could fail to be benefitted, by making this plan general and thoroughly carrying it out—it takes a modern Congressman to perceive.

Some of the papers are making merry over Judge Davis's acceptance of the Labor Reform nomination for the Presidency, and think that the selection of a man who is altogether above the necessity of labor, and is known to be devoid of sympathy with any of the measures distinctly belonging to the Labor movement, as the workingmen's standard bearer, is the most ludicrously inconsistent political action of modern times. Superficially considered this is true, but when the difficulties of the position are properly taken into account, the inconsistency is shown to be more apparent than real, for if the Judge expects to come even within telescopic view of the desired goal, he will not only have to work a precious sight harder than he has ever yet done in his life, but we suspect that the heaviest labors of the workingmen will prove to be mere child's play in comparison with his weighty toil.

The report of the Committee appointed by the Kansas Legislature to inquire into the agencies said to have been employed by Senators Pomeroy and Caldwell to secure their election to the United States Senate—an abstract of which will be found among our telegraphic dispatches—is of so grave a character as to call for a prompt and searching investigation on the part of that body itself into the truth or falsity of the statements therein alleged. Indeed, the inculpated Senators themselves should be the first to demand that an exhaustive inquiry be instituted. No public man, particularly when holding the exalted position of an United States Senator, can afford to rest under imputations of so grievous a nature as those which the report casts upon the Senators in question. Should they fail to exercise their honorable right of insisting upon this investigation, it is hoped the Senate will discharge its duty to itself and country by immediately proceeding to order it.

The repeated remonstrances which, during the past year or two have been made by the press against the reckless and wasteful destruction of the forests of the country, are at last beginning to bear fruit. A variety of practical measures for promoting the growth and cultivation of forest trees have been recently introduced into the Legislatures of several States, and it is to be hoped that the period of laborious folly in which the first duty of settlers in timbered localities is held to be the extermination of every tree and shrub, is pretty nearly over. We have before referred to the commendable action of the Legislatures of Ohio, Nebraska and other States in this regard. Following the example thus set, Maine now proposes to exempt from taxation for the term of twenty years all lands devoted to the growth of forest timber. The amount of taxes that would be derived from such lands, if uncultivated, would be comparatively small; and yet the exemption is of sufficient importance, it is thought, to stimulate the cultivation of trees suitable for timber. California, also, is moving in the same matter, having engaged a professional arboriculturist at a salary of fifteen thousand dollars a year, to superintend the selection and planting of trees in that State. In Iowa, too, a bill to encourage the planting of forest trees has been introduced into the Assembly, and the same subject is under consideration by the Legislatures of a number of other States. It is to be hoped that the movement may become general throughout the country.

It appears that, notwithstanding all that has been written and said in favor of the substitution by Great Britain of iron vessels for wooden ships, there are some people in that country who are still skeptical as to the solid advantages of the change. A writer in the *Times*, who claims to have full knowledge of the matter, the construction of iron British vessels is year by year growing more faulty, and the quality of the material used becoming more and more inferior. He says there are now sailing out of London and Liverpool hundreds of steamers which, in a case of stranding, such as would have cost one of the old wooden ships only a few sheets of copper, a false keel, or other slight repairs, would inevitably break asunder amidships on account of the violation of the principles of civil engineering in their construction, and the flimsiness of the material used. Competition and low freights have, he says, driven ship owners to extreme measures of economy in every way; their theory being, that if a vessel of such and such dimensions, &c., exhibited no signs of weakness after several voyages, ships of slighter material and less thorough workmanship would do as well. To such a length has this economic practice gone, he states, that the majority of these vessels are little better than "prospective coffins," and he holds that when the corrosion and wear of a few years shall have told upon the vessels now being built at such a rapid rate, hardly a quarter of them will be manageable under adverse circumstances.

Is the public schools of the United States the children of the rich and poor stand upon an equal footing; and this is right and proper, since in a country in which every citizen has an equal voice in the government, every child is equally entitled to the benefit of an education, that all may become duly qualified for the discharge of their duties as citizens. The common school is not only the "cheap," but it is also the chief "defence of nations," and anything which tends to interfere with their usefulness, or to arrest them from the legitimate purposes for which they have been established, should be frowned upon. Taxation for the support of schools being impartial, and without reference to sects or parties, they should be so conducted as to leave no reasonable grounds for sectarian complaint, and this can best be accomplished by a course of study and discipline as free as possible from sectarian bias. Yet within the past three years, as is shown by the report of the New York Committee of Public Reform, published in Friday's *Herald*, there has been appropriated to sectarian educational institutions of various kinds in that city, the enormous sum of $1,725,- —of which a single institution—the Roman Catholic—received $1,366,258, besides a large slice of the city's real estate. The publication of these facts has excited considerable agitation, and the Legislature, in addition to being called upon to prohibit the city government from hereafter granting public money or property in aid of sectarian institutions, is also requested to amend the State Constitution so as to impose a similar prohibition on the State government, and all county, town and city governments within the State. Whether the passage of a similar amendment to the Constitution of the United States, prohibiting any sect from building itself up at the cost of the public treasury or property, would not tend to subserve the best interests of the country in every particular, thoughtful people are invited to consider.

The considerable advance which has taken place in the price of wool during the past year, is made the subject of extended comment by several of the leading journals of the country, the staple being an article of prime necessity, and involving a number of important industrial interests. Some curious facts are stated. It is shown that fifty years ago not a pound of fine wool was grown in the United States, Great Britain, or any other country except Spain. In 1784 a small flock was sent to the Elector of Saxony as a great present from the King of Spain, whence came the entire product of Saxony wool, now of such immense value. In 1800, during the invasion of Spain by the French, some of the valuable flock were sold to raise money. The American Consul at Lisbon purchased four hundred head and sent them to this country. A portion of the pure and unmixed Merino stock is still said to be found in Vermont at this time. Such was the origin of the immense flocks of fine wool sheep in the United States at the present time. Taking as a basis of calculation the census report for 1871, in which the number of sheep in all the States and Territories is put down at 31,851,000, and allowing four pounds and a half per head—an average estimate—the clip for the present year would reach 143,329,500 pounds, which would be a slight increase over the clip of last year. In view, however, of the fact that the demand for wool is so largely in excess of the supply, it is held to be not only certain that the present prices will at least continue to rule for some time to come, but that a considerable further advance may be looked for; especially when it is considered that the stock on hand in the foreign wool markets is as small as in those of this country. Indeed, a large advance has lately taken place in Europe in all classes of wool, and an increase of ten per cent. over former prices has been established in England during the present month. It is therefore clearly the interest of the wool-growers of the United States to make their production as large as possible, since there is no likelihood of their overstocking the market for at least a year to come.

### OHIO RIVER IMPROVEMENT—CHARACTER—AIMS—RESULTS.

River navigation on our western waters is beset with innumerable difficulties. Varying stages of water, from disastrous floods to extreme low water, ice and ice gorges, sand bars, snags, bridge piers, wrecks, tortuous channelways, extortionate rates of wharfage, thieving rings of patentees, and Congressional neglect, constitute a horrid chapter of obstacles, sufficient to appal any class of men of less pluck than those now engaged in the navigation of these waters.

To modify some of these difficulties and to remove others, were among the general objects of the Ohio River Convention, held at Cincinnati. The Convention was made up of practical men, representing seven different States, directly interested in the Ohio river. They met in convention for practical purposes; they had no set speeches, no high sounding resolutions, no banquets; they assembled for business, for work, and they went at it in earnest, accomplished it and adjourned.

The objects of the Convention were manifold, and may be specifically stated thus:

1. Concert and harmony of action, all along the line of the river from Pittsburgh to Cairo, including the hundreds of intermediate cities, towns and communities.

2. A comparison of views, as to wants, local and general,—the aggregation and expression of the opinions and views of these great communities, to the end that Congress may be informed that the Ohio river is something that somebody is interested in.

3. The collection of statistics of trade and travel, and such other facts as may assist in securing a just estimate of the value and magnitude of the commerce of this water way.

4. A consideration of the various plans of improvement as suggested by eminent engineers.

5. A broader and more thorough recognition of the importance of this great highway by the public, and especially on the part of Congress.

We think, in most respects, the Convention was a decided success; not that all of these objects, or indeed any one of them, were fully and thoroughly accomplished; but it was a successful step towards the end sought. The Convention assembled in the interest of the *Ohio river*, and did not take in the whole of creation, nor a multitudinous array of subjects. Good will came of this. The expression of the Convention was decided and outspoken; the attention of Congress was challenged to the wants and demands of the great Ohio Valley. The members were permeated with an earnest conviction of the righteousness of their claims for national recognition, and do not mean to be trifled with by such paltry appropriations as fifty thousand dollars per annum.

The permanent improvement of the Ohio river, for the purposes of trade, adequate to the wants of the millions who are to live and prosper along its shores, is a vast undertaking, and cannot be accomplished in a day, or by a single convention. It will require agitation, organization, effort, perseverance and patience to secure all that its importance demands. But, while seeking for and aiming at such a high grade of improvement, much may be accomplished in the way of local and temporary help, which will materially assist the interests of navigation. Take, as an illustration, the Steubenville bridge, that prolific source of annoyance and loss, direct and indirect; a small appropriation, judiciously expended, in widening the channel-span and the erection of permanent *guide wings*, in connection with an adjusted system of signals, would render its passage by tow fleets as safe at night as in day time, saving to the commerce of the river hundreds of thousands of dollars; and, so, local difficulties at numerous points may be removed or modified, improving navigation, lessening disasters, fully compensating for all the labor and expense of holding conventions, and sending delegations to Washington City, which river men are called upon from time to time to do.

The Convention adjourned to meet on call of the proper officers, but before adjournment appointed several important committees, who are to continue the work in the interim. A Committee on Finance, a Committee on Statistics, which, doubtless, will collect much valuable information; a Committee to memorialize Congress, based upon the action of the Convention; a Committee of three from each of the several States represented, to confer with the Governors of these States, for the appointment of a commission of five from each of said States, to consist of practical and important interests, thus securing the recognition of seven great Commonwealths, effectually aiding in obtaining such national recognition as is desired. We therefore regard this as the most important convention which has been held in the interest of inland navigation. Specific in its aims, harmonious in its action, earnest in its purpose, we are confident of good results.

### AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

Really amiable people of a certain temper or disposition have few attached friends simply because their friendship is too costly. They do not beg nor do they borrow money which they neglect or forget to return, but, in their dashing escapades, brilliant eccentricities and traits of exaggerated egotism, they either involve themselves in difficulties of a kind which makes sympathy impossible, or they perpetually raise in the minds of friends painful apprehensions which render their friendship excessively burdensome. During the last two years we fear that American sympathizers with the grand nation, as France calls herself, have often been tempted to renounce their hereditary liking for our ancient ally, in mere disgust with the constantly renewed demands upon their charitable forbearance. The empire could fairly be held answerable for much in the past, and other influences, the mischief of which is not usually underestimated by Protestants, might reasonably be taken into account, as furnishing a satisfactory explanation of events which seemed to imply fatal defects in the French national character. But peace having been concluded with Germany and the Communists having been put down, it really appeared a very moderate expectation that under the peculiar circumstances of the situation, all parties in the country, postponing their differences, would co-operate in the work of reviving the ruins of the time, and in re-establishing the reign of peace and prosperous industry. M. Thiers, the survivor of departed generations, had apparently been preserved alive for the crisis which had come. Though no impartial foreigner who had read his books and studied his career as a statesman ever fancied him a great man, yet a large portion of his compatriots evidently looked upon him as such, and as fully qualified to be the savior of the nation. But in spite of favoring circumstances within and of the terrible pressure exerted by the Germans from without, the entire history of M. Thiers's administration has been a succession of alarms. Neither Legitimists nor Orleanists nor Bonapartists have intermitted their intrigues for a day, while the extreme Republicans of the school of Gambetta have been equally assiduous in toiling for the possession of power. From late reports it is evident that, instead of becoming consolidated and firmly settled, the present Government is in a condition so shaky and uncertain that the report of its overthrow any day need be received with no surprise. It is now manifest that, in hoping for the success of Thiers in gradually harmonizing or counteracting the various parties hostile to a moderate republic, the friends of France have counted on elements of character and virtue which do not largely exist in any class. In fact, Thiers himself has proved himself wanting in the qualities which were ascribed to him. In his earlier days nobody thought him unselfish, but in the awfully solemn and responsible position in which circumstances had at length placed him, and with so few years at most between him and the grave, many persuaded themselves that his character had risen to the greatness of his office, and that he would justify by his conduct the confidence and enthusiasm with which his afflicted countrymen regarded him. Even his admirers now admit that he has disappointed them. It is evident that he takes a childish pleasure in the feeling that he is indispensable, and he is therefore unwilling to take any step which might diminish his importance or prevent his sudden death from plunging his country into anarchy and civil war. Thus the proposal to appoint a Vice President was declared by him inopportune and impolitic, and even an act of personal hostility to himself. By this refusal Thiers has greatly weakened his influence, indeed, has much contributed to change the trust of many into despair of the rule of which he has the control. Then, the manner in which he has forced his own economical views upon the Assembly and the country, has tended in the same direction, and is likely before long to make him as unpopular as Louis Napoleon himself among the laboring classes.

By Thiers's mistakes the Bonapartists are naturally much gratified as they hope to profit by them. The continuance of the provisional government is naturally desired by them, and the death of the President without a successor appointed beforehand would in all probability result in the catastrophe from which they hope for a restoration to power. It is certain that they are greatly encouraged by the indications, for some weeks apparent of an imperial reaction, and they have reason to be almost equally pleased with the increasing despondency of their enemies. In four departments the recent elections to fill vacancies in the Assembly have resulted in the choice of outspoken Bonapartists, and the election of M. Rothier in Corsica has given to the imperial cause one of the ablest members, and one peculiarly well qualified to take advantage of the opposition encountered by the Thiers trade policy. The Catholic clergy also are, on good authority, reported to have gradually given up the hopes they formerly reposed in Legitimacy and Orleanism, separately or in alliance, and to have set their hearts on a restoration of the empire, with the late Empress as regent.

In view of the uncertain state of affairs in France there is, therefore, nothing surprising in the substance of the dispatch of the 23d instant, which a sensational New York journal claims to have received from Berlin. The dispatch says that "Germany is arming again, and that two corps of the imperial Prussian army have received orders from the war office to hold themselves fully equipped and in readiness to move immediately when directed." In case of any change in the French Government, or any decided movement in the direction of change, Bismarck will of course take measures to secure the fulfilment of the terms of peace. Though no direct interference may be necessary, it will be an obvious precaution to reoccupy an additional portion of the French Territory, especially as a republic headed by Gambetta would almost certainly renew the war.

### COALITIONS.

The statement comes to us from Washington that the nomination of Judge Davis for the Presidency by the Labor Reformers was in pursuance of a scheme matured some weeks ago. The facts that Judge Davis was not connected with the Labor Reform movement, and that there is no personal fitness in his nomination as a representative of Labor Reform, being a man of large wealth and one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States—the surprising unanimity of the second ballot, every one of the other numerous candidates being instantly dropped—show plainly enough that the nomination was controlled by influences which had their source and center outside of the Convention and party. We are justified in assuming that the nomination of Judge Davis possesses a significance beyond that which ought to be accorded to the action of the Labor Reform Convention. His past connection with the Republican party, his intimate personal relations with the late President Lincoln, and probably anti-protection principles, make him acceptable to the so-called Liberal Republicans and Free Traders, while his known dissent from and even opposition to the action of the Republican party for some years past, and his strict construction doctrines in the Supreme Court, especially in relation to the Legal Tender and Martial Law cases, commend him to the "New Departure" Democrats. We do not affirm on positive knowledge that Judge Davis is a Free Trader, but in view of the fact that his name has been prominently before the public for several months as an acceptable and available candidate of all the political elements opposed to General Grant, we are justified in assuming that he is not a protectionist, until the contrary appears. Here, then, in the Northern States, are the elements of and parties to a coalition against the Republican party, formidable enough in appearance. What would be the actual strength of such a combination?

Experience has demonstrated that party coalitions are dangerous only to the leaders who have made them. English and American history is full of examples to this effect. There is not a single case in which a signal success—a considerable political result—has been achieved by a coalition of opposite political parties. Independent and thinking citizens are unwilling to ratify the bargains of designing political leaders to accomplish a result which would be the destruction of the individuality and identity of the weaker party. Popular distrust never shows itself stronger than in the repudiation of all such compacts. The party man has always some dominant political principle or idea which he is unwilling to have subordinated to the dogma of another creed which he does not even approve. Aggression is the only mode of advancing political opinions—the aggression of party force. Hence every attempt at coalition by independent political parties is a surrender on the weaker side and a false pretense on the stronger, and every party man of honest opinions instinctively feels this to be true. The man who [illegible] of suffrage (and nearly every voter does) will not agree to be transferred to a political association with which the smallest modicum of choice, cast his lot. For these reasons coalitions are impracticable so far as the masses of the people are concerned. Where they have been attempted by leaders in legislative bodies, the result has almost uniformly been disastrous to themselves without accomplishing any substantial political result. The great English statesman, Charles James Fox, came out of his coalition with his old adversary, Lord North, disabled and discredited for the remainder of his public life. Henry Clay, great and pure and noble as he was, wrecked his political fortunes on his coalition with Mr. Adams, in which no political principle was involved.

The coalition now on foot proceeds on the fact that the Republican party, with Gen. Grant as its nominee, is stronger than any single political organization in the country, and will assuredly succeed unless all the elements of opposition and hate are consolidated. Indeed, it goes further in the implied admission of Republican strength, and seeks to unite opposition all now otherwise friendly, who value the success of Labor Reform, Free Trade or some other principle or dogma above every other principle, idea or result. But what attinity is there between Labor Reform and Free Trade, or between a Labor Reformer and a Southern and many Northern Democrats? The very statement of the thing proposed shows its utter impracticability. Democrats will not do violence to party faith and traditions at the behest of any leader. Liberal Republicans will find as good a friend of amnesty and civil service reform in Gen. Grant as in Judge Davis, or any coalition candidate, and Labor Reformers, Republican in principle, will have difficulty in discovering how their cause can be promoted by the defeat of Gen. Grant. The result will be that the coalition leaders will find that they cannot carry with them the parties they affect to represent, and the Republican party will be stronger against the coalition than it would be against the Democratic party alone, which now confesses its weakness. The strength of the Republican party is unabated, and Gen. Grant will be as strong if not stronger than the party.

Mr. E. W. Wynkoop, for many years an Indian agent, who certainly has had good opportunities of observation concerning the matter, adds the weight of his testimony to that already given respecting the wanton destruction of the buffalo; and he says there is another reason, apart from cruelty, which should compel Congress to take action. This destruction, he states, is one of the greatest grievances against the whites which the Indians have, and he adds that, to his own personal knowledge, it has frequently been their second incentive to declare war. "Little Robe," the Cheyenne Chief, who recently visited Washington, at one time remarked to Mr. Wynkoop, after he had censured him for allowing his young men to kill a white man's ox: "Your people make a big talk, and some times make war, if an Indian kills a white man's ox to keep his wife and children from starving; what do you think my people ought to say, and do, when they themselves see their cattle killed by your race, when they are not hungry." It is to be hoped the measure which Senator Wilson has introduced into Congress for the purpose of checking this wholesale destruction may be passed without delay.

On the first of the present month the postal telegraph card system went into use in England. The plan is designed for the accommodation of those for whom it will be more convenient to deposit the card in the nearest pillar, letter, or other postoffice letter box, than to send a message to the nearest telegraph station. The telegraph cards bear a twenty-five cent stamp, and are taken from the boxes along with the other contents at the regular collecting periods, which are always specified on the table on or over the box; and on the arrival of a collection at the proper office, the telegraph cards are at once picked out and handed over to the telegraph-counter clerk, who deals with them in the ordinary course, obliterating the stamp. No postage is charged, the shilling stamp covering that, and also franking the message on the card to the same privileges as are granted to messages handed in to offices in the ordinary way. It is to be hoped we may have a similar plan in operation in this country, some day, even if we have not as yet got the postal telegraph system itself.

The average rates of discount in the principal European cities for the year 1871, were as follows: London, 3 per cent.; Amsterdam, 2½; Frankfort, 3½; Brussels, 4; Berlin, 4½; Paris, 5%. It is noticeable that Paris, where the rate has generally been lower than elsewhere, now shows the highest rate, while in London it is exceptionally low. This is doubtless owing to the great volume of foreign capital which was poured into the London markets last year.

### GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A large landowner in California, having become a convert to the efficiency and reliability of the predictions of the Storm Signal Bureau, a few hours before the late violent and disastrous storm in that State telegraphed from San Francisco to his son in charge at the ranche to at once remove all the stock from the valley to the high land, as a severe storm was impending. The order was obeyed, and the men barely succeeded in getting the last of the stock out of the marsh a short time before the surplus waters of the Sacramento broke over and inundated the land to the depth of five or six feet. He believes in the system more than ever, now.

Good, if true. The Congressional Committee on Banking and Currency are said to have before them, and to be considering favorably, a bill providing that when a national bank fails, or is placed in the hands of a receiver, that the private creditors of the bank shall have equal rights with the Government in sharing whatever money can be realized.

It has been generally supposed that the guano deposits in the Chincha islands were the excreta of birds, but it is now thought that they are made up of the bodies of decayed animals and plants, most of which are of marine origin. This supposition rests on the fact that the anchors of ships moored near those islands frequently bring guano to the surface.

It is said that the proposition to establish great gambling houses in Paris is likely to be adopted. The advocates of it have just brought forward their strongest argument—namely, that the Germans are extremely uneasy at the prospect of the Paris gambling tables causing the Baden-Baden, Ems, Homburg and Wiesbaden establishments to be deserted. It is well known that the German government has determined that the houses in the empire shall be closed, but there is an idea that a little spite can be shown by setting up rival rouge-et-noir tables, for which reason the whole population of France will probably be in favor of it.

A pamphlet recently published by the Chicago Relief Committee, giving their items of receipt and expenditure, shows that up to the 6th of January they had received $3,335,700, and expended $1,573,690, leaving a balance on hand of $1,726,064. This is a princely record of the good in mankind, and a proof positive of the verity of that golden creed or sympathy which has so long been said to link the hands of humanity in brotherhood. New York stands first on this munificent list, her donation amounting to $1,674,571. Second to her is Great Britain with her $400,000. Then comes Massachusetts with $235,530, and so on down a long column, testifying before it ends to the generosity of the whole world.

The first tobacco sale in Nashville since the war took place on the 20th inst., and the *Union and American* says: "The sale was quite an event, and is the revival of a trade which carries us back to *antebellum* days, when tobacco ranked next to cotton."

It has been suggested that a penny stamp on certificates of character would yield a respectable item for the revenue, and at the same time give an additional guarantee of authenticity to the document. Security and cautionary obligations are at present stamped, and the kindred class of writing, being representation and assurance of conduct, credit and ability, could easily stand this amount.

An English gamekeeper has recently broken a black sow to hunt game in the woods; and she is said to run in the hunt with wonderful success. She will track game, back and stand, and point partridges, pheasants, snipes, and rabbits as skilfully as a bred pointer. She bounds in response to a whistle, and wags her head and squeals with delight on being shown a gun.

The Iowa Legislature has passed a joint resolution to strike the word "male" out of the State Constitution, and a bill providing for submitting the question to the people at the next general election, was passed.

New Zealand bathers complain that their diversions are disturbed by marine monsters who get inside the baths; a memorial to the Provincial government of Otago showing that "one animal, the octopus, a species of cuttle-fish, has seized and put in peril various parties while bathing, to the risk of life." The memorialists ask to be protected by a wire netting.

The famous copper mines at Granby, Conn., which were first worked in 1668, but have not been touched for many years, are shortly to be reopened.

The London *Times* argues against State railways, that the discovery of some contrivance, such as passenger balloons or electric engines, may supersede them, and thus ruin the country that owns them.

The Mississippi river is 2,616 miles in length, and 1,000 feet above the level of the ocean at its utmost source. At St. Paul it is 670 feet above the level of the gulf. At the head of the Rock Island rapids, 505 feet; at Davenport, 477 feet; at St. Louis, 408 feet; at Cairo, 322 feet; at Memphis, 221 feet; at Natchez, 66 feet; at New Orleans, 15 feet; and at the head of the passes, 2 feet 9 inches.

At a masquerade ball recently given in Scotland, an officer of inland revenue managed to obtain admission, disguised as one of the waiters, and took a list of the names of all who appeared in powdered wigs. He has since assessed them for double tax for wearing powder without a license, there being a tax of five dollars per annum for the privilege of wearing powder on the head in Great Britain.

London bids fair to be in a few years the most noiseless city in the world. Already a vast amount of rolling of vehicles and stamping and snorting of horses, and tramping and talking of men has been removed from the streets by the underground railways, and now the city authorities are about to repave their streets with asphalt. Some said this procedure would be followed by a "fog," but the effect of having the matter in charge went to work and poured petroleum over a piece of asphalt pavement, and set the liquid on fire. The result was that the asphalt failed to blaze, and even the oil could scarcely keep alight on it. So we know asphalt roads are not inflammable.

### PERSONAL.

At the late banquet given in New York to Gen. Sickles by the officers of his old corps, one of the most striking scenes of the evening was the speech of Gen. Owen of the Second corps, who said that he, as well as many others, had criticised and condemned the advanced position taken by Gen. Sickles and the Third corps at Gettysburg, but that on revisiting and examining the battle-field since the war, he had been convinced that the attitude of the Third corps, assumed in defiance of the ordinary rules of war, was the only one which could have saved the day. Gen. De Peyster followed in a graphic and telling speech, stating that he was of the same opinion.

The King of Italy has conferred upon Mr. Edward Whymper, Vice President of the Alpine Club, the Order of St. Maurice et Lazare, "in recognition of the value of his recently published magnificent work upon the Alps."

Senator Buckingham is lying ill at his home in Norwich, Conn. His disease is gastric fever, and his friends throughout the country will wait with some anxiety for the good news of his convalescence.

"Burke's British Peerage," which is usually accepted as authority upon all matters concerning the pedigree of the English aristocracy, states that Sir Charles Dilke is a lineal descendant of Mr. Fisher Dilke, who married Sibell Wentworth, sister of Sir Peter Wentworth, the regicide. The arch-agitator among the anti-monarchists would therefore appear to come of a king-hating stock, and his opposition to monarchy may perhaps be explained upon the ground of hereditary tendency.

Terschak, who is now on his way to New York, and will concertize with Rubenstein, Wianowski and others, played the flute with Jenny Lind on her first concert tour on this continent. He is now the first artist on the flute in the world; and the best since Kuhlau. He is also an eminent pianist. He practices ten hours daily, and, after fifteen years' trial, has succeeded in producing on the flute the rare and famous double tones, playing slow movements in thirds and fifths.

Viscount Monck, who, it is rumored, will fill the vacancy created by the death of the Governor-General elect of India, was born October 10, 1819; educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and admitted to the Irish bar in 1841. He was sent to Parliament from Portsmouth as a liberal member in July, 1852, and was re-elected in March 1865. He was a Lord of the Treasury from 1855 to 1858; was appointed commissioner of Charitable Bequests and Donations in Ireland in 1851, and was made Governor-in-Chief of Canada and Governor-General of British America, October 28, 1861, holding office until 1868.

Nast, whose pencil has proved of more power than pen and sword combined, seems at last to have found a foeman worthy of his best efforts. The rising star is Mr. Matthew Morgan, an English artist, whose drawings in the London *Punch* and *Shirtmaker* made him famous in his country. Frank Leslie has secured his services for the *Illustrated Newspaper*, and now publishes each week a wonderfully good cartoon.

*L'Heraldo*, a Madrid paper, heralds the "coming man" in the shape of a young Portuguese tenor whose contralto voice ranges from the bass lower E to D in alto.

Mrs. Swisshelm says Dr. Cuyler is mistaken in saying that the Bible is non-committal on the subject of woman preaching. She says the first public preacher under the New dispensation was Anna—who "departed not from the temple, and spoke of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." The next preacher, she is of opinion, was fruitful in female preachers.

John Bright's friends are now convinced that his health is not perfectly re-established. They fear that he may not be able to attend Parliament, and they apprehend that he will never be able to take his old share of public work.

### The County School Superintendency.

*To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:*

FEBRUARY 22d, 1872.

This being Washington's birthday, a legal holiday, as an innocent recreation I propose, with your consent, to play the role of a Reformer. I propound, through you, to the intelligent taxpayers and voters of the county and State this question: "Whether the office of County and State Superintendent of our common schools is not a grand imposition on the public?" I allude to the office, as I believe the duties of the office, such as they are, are as well performed by present officers as they can be. That the office is not only a grand imposition but a reflection on the intelligence and discernment of the people, that it has been allowed to exist and bleed the public treasury to such an extent for so many years, I must unhesitatingly affirm, to wit: First. An individual receiving from $2,000 to $5,000 per year for itinerating around the county to certify to qualifications of teachers needs only to be stated to be condemned, and to this fact I wish to call the particular attention of you taxpayers, whether rich or poor, land holders or laborers. I wish you to give this glaring fraud your consideration. You work hard in your workshops, on your farms, and in the mines for from one dollar and a half to five dollars per day, and here is an individual receiving from ten to twenty dollars per day for certifying to the qualifications of another person to perform his or her duties. Now appiy this principle to other duties or avocations in life and you would have a County Superintendent to certify to the qualifications of your mechanics, farmers, miners, doctors, and lawyers, &c. If it works good in the one instance it would in the other, for school teaching is like all other professions, intensely practical to be successful, and a teacher with no better established character than one of these certificates rests his or her claim on a very flimsy basis. While the public who depend on such artifical teachers cannot expect to realize much good from our public schools. I here assert a fact that I think the general experience will bear me out in: that the men and women who are sending their children to the public schools of to-day must either confess that their children are very much duller of apprehension than they were, or their teaching is inferior. How many parents whose opportunities were limited to 6 or 8 short winter sessions of public school, that in everything that is practical or useful are the equal of their children who have been attending for 8, 10 and 15 years free and pay schools almost continuously? The reason is, then the teacher depended on his merit or success as a teacher for his certificate of qualifications, &c. But I have been diverging from the question at issue, viz: that the office of County Superintendent is a useless expenditure, that the people do not receive a benefit from it compared with what it costs; to make it still stronger, that an individual receiving such a salary as that out of the public treasury should at least be required to give his entire time and attention to said public duties, and that said duties should consist in something by which the public were receiving some practical benefit equal to the outlay they are called to make. But how is it now? Here is a nut for you taxpayers who receive from two to three dollars per day, and have to help to pay these onerous taxes, to crack. This office, which costs you from ten to twenty dollars per day for services rendered, is so trivial that the officer has time to pursue private enterprises of considerable magnitude—to engage in business requiring fully as much time and talent as those of County Superintendent.

THE REMEDY.

Every reformer should have his remedy and here is mine:

1st. Abolish the office entire, and return to the old and sensible mode of electing school directors capable of employing and deciding on the qualifications of teachers. Benjamin Franklin's motto was that a republican form of government should have as few salaried officers as possible.

2d. If this is not deemed advisable, make the duties of said officer, receiving a salary of that kind, consist in taking up his quarters in some one of our public school-rooms, and for ten hours each day, from seven a. m. to six p. m., engage his time in teaching and qualifying teachers for their profession—say at least three hundred days each year, and the other fifteen days to be given to holding institutes, examining teachers that may become rusty, &c. A fair day's work for a fair day's pay. Now, to secure the reform. At our spring elections let the ticket be voted in each election district, "County Superintendent, no Superintendent," and I venture the Treasury will be saved three thousand dollars per year.

NECESSITY FOR REFORM.

It must be apparent to all that this reckless expenditure of public money cannot go on much longer. The poor people are groaning under it; rents, by reason of enormous taxation, are attaining such a height that they can scarcely find shelter; farmers must have higher prices in order to overcome taxes; pauperism and crime are increasing faster than intelligence; the children of poor people are deprived of the benefit of the public schools because their parents require their assistance in the mines and shops to assist them in making both ends meet. A laboring man remarked to me the other day that on a little property he owns, a house and small piece of ground, his taxes were more than his rent used to be; that his boys ought to be going to school, but while work was going on he could not spare them, and if the present state of affairs keep on it soon will be in this country as in England—the poor will be ground down to support a preferred class. This is but one of a thousand instances that need reform. The Legislature is in session, and all such useless offices should be pointed out and abolished, and the public mendicants made rely on their own powers.

My article is already so long that I don't expect it will ever see print, or I would like to give a description of one examination of teachers I accidentally attended. But more anon.

A Tax-payer.

### Aggravated Indigestion.

Persons who have been subject to dyspepsia find their sufferings from this cause greatly aggravated by damp weather, easterly winds and sudden changes from a mild to a chilling atmosphere. During these periods the pangs of indigestion are seriously augmented by the atmospheric variations peculiar to the season, and it is incumbent upon all who desire to pass through this ordeal of ills safely and insalubrious gales with easy stomachs, and unmolested by the indescribable torments which accompany dyspepsia, to tone and regulate the digestive organs with a healthful and effective vegetable invigorant; and no one at all familiar with the medical record of the age, can question the fact that Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is the tonic best adapted to this purpose.

The credentials of the Great Restorative are unequalled in number and character by those of any other advertised medicine in the world. If ever there was a preparation to rank as a National Remedy, this wonderful specific has a fair claim to the title. For a period of twenty years it has literally been the Champion Tonic and Alterative on this side of the Atlantic. In popularity it has never been approached by any of the numerous competitors, and its annual sales are so far in advance of those of any other medicine of its class, that comparisons would be ridiculous. One of two conclusions is inevitable. Either the American people are deficient in common sense, and incapable of rational discrimination, or Hostetter's Bitters is the best preventive remedy for fever, constipation, rheumatism, nervous complaints, and all maladies of an epidemic or endemic type. The reader will judge for himself which of the two conclusions is most consistent with fact and reason.


PURE WHITE LEAD.

Pure White Lead.
Flaxseed Oil.
Flaxseed Oil.

Turpentine, Turpentine.
Varnishes, Varnishes,
Paints of all kinds, Paints of all kinds.
Sperm and Whale Oils, Sperm and Whale Oils,
And at the Lowest Prices, at
JOSEPH FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner Diamond.

Where also may be obtained the Purest Drugs and Medicines, selected particularly for family use; also, Pure Wines and Brandies, guaranteed genuine, of my own importation.
84 Market street, corner of the Diamond.

PURE POTASH.
Pure Potash, Pure Potash,
Pure Potash, Pure Potash,
Pure Potash, guaranteed strictly No. 1, always on hand at
JOS. FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner of Diamond,
English and Scotch Ales,
English and Scotch Ales,
English and Scotch Ales,
Of all kinds, constantly on hand, at
JOS. FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner of Diamond.

DRY GOODS.

Always Complete.

THE STOCK OF

DRY GOODS,

TO BE FOUND AT

Jas. Caldwell's.

Pequot and Utica Sheetings 5-4, 6-4, 9-4 and 10-4 Wide.
All the Standard Brands of Shirting Muslins.
Lonsdale Cambric White Goods and Hamburg Embroideries.
Irish Linens, Linen Sheetings.
Barnsley's Damask Table Linens, Towels and Napkins.
Honey Comb and Marseilles Quilts.
New Prints, Chintzes and Ginghams.
Alpacas, Mohair Lustres and Brilliantines.

A COMPLETE STOCK OF

Mourning Dress Goods.

A large stock of BLACK SILKS from $1 00 to $5 00 per yard.
FANCY SILKS for Evening Dresses.
A choice lot of STRIPE DRESS SILKS at $1 00 per yard, just opened.

118 and 120 FEDERAL STREET,

ALLEGHENY.

FINE CIGARS—

A FRESH INVOICE

Choice Havana and Key West Cigars,

just received, including the celebrated Henry Clay brand, La Rosa Espanola, Fra Diavolo, Violets and Bon Bon Cigars of different sizes and prices. Wholesale and Retail, by

JOHN A. RENSHAW & CO.,
Corner Liberty and Ninth streets

DRY GOODS.

AT

WILLIAM SEMPLE'S

New Dress Goods.

Black Alpacas, Black Mohairs.
Black Alpacas, Black Mohairs.
Black Merinos and Delaines.
Black Gros De 'Londres,
Black Velours and Satines,
Black and Gray Poplins.

AT ATTRACTIVE PRICES.

Black Dress Silks,

*JAPANESE SILKS,*

PLAIN AND STRIPED—VERY CHEAP.

LONG AND SQUARE

BLACK THIBET SHAWLS,

BROCHE SHAWLS,

SEAMLESS SKIRTS,
BALMORAL SKIRTS,
HOOP SKIRTS,
AND BUSTLES,

AT VERY LOW PRICES,

*Wholesale and Retail,*

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S

Nos. 165, 167 and 169

Federal Street, Allegheny.

*PACIFIC PERCALES,*

ENGLISH PRINTS,
CHEVIOT SHIRTINGS,

NEW PATTERNS JUST OPENED BY

*WHITE, ORR & CO.,*

25 FIFTH AVENUE.

CARPETS.

H. McCALLUM.

CARPETS.

51

*FIFTH AVENUE.*

SEASONABLE.

SPECIAL IMPORTATION OF

MATS,

JUST OPENED THIS WEEK.

Nothing repays its cost—some by service and protection than a good

DOOR MAT,

Especially in Winter and early Spring. All imaginable styles in the greatest profusion, and at Lowest Prices.

OUR STOCK OF

*CARPETS,*
*OIL CLOTHS, &c.,*

As heretofore, the Largest in the city.

OLIVER McCLINTOC

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Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

*Government Securities,*

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS.

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

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The undersigned have formed a Copartnership under the above name to transact

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS,

AT ALLIANCE, OHIO, and will give careful and prompt attention to all business entrusted to them.

Special attention will be given to Collections in ALL SOUTHEASTERN OHIO, MASSILLON, SALEM, LISBON, COLUMBIANA, NEW LISBON, and all other points in this part of Ohio.

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WE OFFER FOR SALE

$20,000 TURTLE CREEK DIVISION BONDS,

PITTSBURGH & CONNELLSVILLE R.R.,

AT 86 AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

CITY OF PITTSBURGH WATER LOAN,

AT PAR AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Streets.


## FINANCE AND TRADE

SATURDAY EVENING, February 24, 1872.

The week closes with a quiet money market, such as is usually characteristic of this season, loans being made with reference to April settlements, and the banks wishing to be in funds at that time. In trade circles there is full activity, and the spring demand promises to be large. The iron houses have advanced rates three times since the opening of the year, in proportion to the advance in metal, and report orders unequal to their capacity to fill.

The New York bank statement shows a heavy loss in reserve, the banks having now but little over two millions above the legal requirements. Under this influence the stock market dropped off after the statement was published, and money on call commanded a commission above the legal rate. Commercial paper was quoted as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First-class endorsed paper..... | 60 days | 7@ 8 |
| " " | 4 mos | 7@ 8 |
| " " | 6 mos | 7@ 8 |
| " single name | 60 days | 8@ 9 |
| " " | 4 mos | 8@ 9 |
| " " | 6 mos | 8@10 |

Which is fully up to Pittsburgh rates.

The burning of the American Iron works will make a heavy call on the available assets of the insurance companies represented here, as will be seen by the report of losses.

We have sales reported of Pittsburgh 4s at 90; 5s at 73½; 5 per cent. scrip at 71; Allegheny County 5s at 78; Allegheny city 6s at 88, Allegheny R. R. 7.30s, 93 bid.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

| | Morning. | Noon. |
|---|---|---|
| U. S. Bonds of 1881 | 115½ | 115¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1862 | 111 | 111¼ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1864 | 111 | 111¼ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 | 111¼ | 111½ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new) | 110¾ | 110¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1867 | 111¾ | 111¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1868 | 112 | 112 |
| 10-40s | 108¾ | 108¾ |
| New 5s | 108¾ | 108¾ |
| Gold | 111 | 110¾ |
| Currency 6s | 119¾ | 119¾ |

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gold | 111 |
| United States 6s of 1881 | 115¼ |
| United States 5-20s of 1862 | 111½ |
| United States 5-20s of 1864 | 111¼ |
| United States 5-20s of 1865 | 111¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865 | 110¼ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867 | 111¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868 | 112¼ |
| Union Pacific Railroad | |
| Central Pacific Railroad, all Stations | |
| Currency Pacifics | 113¼ |

The Cincinnati *Commercial* says of their local market: The market for Eastern Exchange is now settled, with an ample supply and good mercantile demand, but the scarcity of currency keeps the rates down. Dealers are indifferent about buying round sums at better than ¼ to ⅜ discount, while they take the current rates of depositors at 1-10@1-20 discount, and draw freely at par. New Orleans exchange continues in good demand at ¼ to ⅜ premium.

There is not much improvement in the supply of currency, although depositors are a little more liberal, and the indications are that there will be an increase in the receipts of the ordinary kinds of funds now that the river country is opened up again to communication with the city. The demand for money to-day was not unusually large, and although the market can not be called easy, the banks are generally able to supply the wants of depositors at 5@9 per cent, with 10 as an extreme figure. Outside of bank, the little paper offered was quoted at 10 per cent.

The managers of the Northern Pacific Railroad have ordered fifty new locomotives, which will make one hundred engines on the road, all of which have been built in Pennsylvania shops. Up to this time over five millions of dollars have been expended in this State for the various products of our iron manufacturers and machine shops. The project is essentially Pennsylvanian in its inception and management, and as the State is largely benefited by its expenditures, it is entitled to the support of our capitalists and investors.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

| February 24, 1872. | 10 A.M. | 11 A.M. | 12 M. | 1:30 P.M. | 2:30 P.M. | 3 P.M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gold | 111 | 111 | 110¾ | 110¾ | 110¾ | 110¾ |
| Canton | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ | 68¾ |
| West'n Union Tel | 68¼ | 68¾ | 68¼ | 68¼ | 68¼ | ..... |
| Quicksilver | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 |
| Pacific Mail | 37⅝ | 38 | 38 | 38 | 37⅝ | 37⅝ |
| Adams Express | 90½ | 90½ | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Wells-Fargo Ex | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | ..... | ..... |
| American Express | 68 | 68¼ | 68¼ | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| United States Ex | 96¼ | 96¼ | 96¼ | 96¼ | 96¼ | 96¼ |
| New York Central | 96¾ | 96¾ | 97 | 97¼ | 97⅜ | 97⅜ |
| N. Y. Central Scrip | 96¾ | 96¾ | 96¾ | 96¾ | 96¾ | 96¾ |
| Erie | 25¾ | 25¾ | 25¾ | 25¾ | 25¾ | 25¾ |
| Reading | 104 | 104¼ | 104¼ | 104¼ | 104¼ | 104¼ |
| Michigan Central | ..... | 117⅝ | ..... | 117⅝ | ..... | 117⅝ |
| Michigan Southern | 94 | 94 | 94 | 94 | 94¼ | 94¼ |
| Illinois Central | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Cleveland & Pitts | 90¾ | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| Chicago & North'w | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ | 74¾ |
| Do. preferred | 86¾ | 86¾ | 86¾ | 86¾ | 86¾ | 86¾ |
| Rock Island | 109¾ | 109¾ | 110 | 110 | 110 | 110 |
| St. Paul | 36¾ | 36¾ | 36¾ | 36¾ | 36¾ | 36¾ |
| Do. preferred | 76¾ | 76¾ | 76¾ | 76¾ | 77 | 77 |
| Wabash | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Do. preferred | ..... | 97½ | ..... | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| Fort Wayne | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| Ohio and Miss'pi | 42¾ | 42¾ | 42¾ | 42¾ | 43¼ | 43¼ |
| Chicago and Alton | ..... | 117 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Do. preferred | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Bolton, Hford & K | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Harlem | ..... | 119 | ..... | 119½ | ..... | ..... |
| New Jersey Central | ..... | 102 | ..... | 102 | ..... | ..... |
| Union Pacific | 35¼ | 35¼ | 35¼ | 35¼ | 34¾ | 35¼ |
| Tennessee State bonds | ..... | 67 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Do. new | ..... | 67 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| South Carolina, July | 39 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| South Carolina, April | 39 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Missouri 6s | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

—The Boston Board of Trade finally adopted, by a vote of twenty-four to nineteen, the original resolutions presented by the committee appointed to consider Mr. Sumner's bill for the substitution of compound interest notes for the present legal tenders. The resolutions are as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Boston Board of Trade approve the principles of the bill introduced by Mr. Sumner in the Senate of the United States for the gradual withdrawal of the greenback circulation, and the substitution therefor of compound interest notes, in monthly issues of five millions, bearing interest at not less than four per cent. per annum.

*Resolved*, That the interest notes be made payable at maturity in coin or bonds, at the option of the Government, and not at the option of the holder.

By adopting these resolutions the Boston Board of Trade asserts its belief that our currency at the present moment is redundant—that the volume of the currency measures its value—that the premium on gold is a measure of the redundancy of the currency—and that a gradual withdrawal of the present issues of our whole banking system, the legal tender notes, can safely and surely be effected only through the substitution of any thing else in their place; for the Board cannot believe that gold can ever be made to take their place, while it is at a premium in the open market, one of the well established principles of all circulating currencies being that when two or more currencies circulate concurrently, the medium of they vary in value, the lowest invariably drives those of higher value out of circulation.—*Bulletin*.

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Penn's Central | 63¾ | Lehigh Valley R. R. | 62¾ |
| Phila. and Erie | 27¾ | North Penn'a R. R. | 49 |
| Lehigh Navigation | 40 | Camden and Amboy | 125 |
| Lehigh Zinc | 46½ | Penn'a and Navigat'n | 50¼ |
| Oil Creek & Alle'y R. | 38 | Reading | 57 |

### Printing Cloths.

The Providence *Journal* says: Market firm and rather stronger. Printers are short of goods, not enough grey cloths being made to supply the machinery. Within this year there will be some 12 or 15 large mills put in operation on print cloths, which will give printers a supply. The following are the sales for the week:

| | |
|---|---|
| 7,000 pieces, 64x64, 7¼c., up to April, cash, 10 days. | |
| 15,000 pieces, 64x64, 7½c., 10 days, on hand. | |
| 25,000 pieces, 64x64, 7¾c., cash, 10 days, up to April. | |
| 8,000 pieces, 64x64, 8c., 10 days, on hand. | |
| 50,000 pieces. | |

Middling cotton in New York, at this time in 1871, was 19½c.; 1870, middling cotton was 23c.; February 1869, 1870, print cloths, 8c.; corresponding week in 1871, print cloths, 7c.

## PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, February 24, 1872. }

REMARKS.—The weather continues mild and spring-like. We have few changes to note in prices, the week closing upon an uniform market. Business cannot be classified active, though it is no duller than the season and closed rivers would seem to warrant. The spring trade will soon set in, when lively times are anticipated, all dealers being fully prepared to meet any and all demands that may be made upon them.

Before we give the wholesale rates of the market, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Good winter $4 50@5 00 per bbl; fair $4; common $3; fancy $5@6. Receipts 782 bbls.

ASHES—Prices have slightly advanced, and we now quote common soda ash at 5c; refined 5½c; nitrate soda 5¾c; pots 10c; pearls 11c.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales prime at 60c70c per gallon; common to fair 50@55c.

BRANS—Prime Navy $2 25@2 50 ₱ bush. Supply light and market firm.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Sales at $8 00@8 50 ₱ barrel for a prime article; $5 75@4 00 ₱ cwt.

BROOM CORN—Demand light with sales at prices within the range of 5@6c ₱ lb.

BROOMS—Market quiet at $4 50 for fancy; No. 1, $4 00; No. 2, $3 50; No. 3, $2 75; common, $2 25@2 50 ₱ doz.

BAKED POTTER—Royal ½-lb cans $1 50 per doz; ½-lb cans $3 00 per dozen; 1-lb cans $6 00 per dozen; Banner $1 75, $3 25 and $6 00 per dozen for the different sizes.

BUTTER—Receipts 61 packages. The supply of prime roll is not up with the demand, and sells up from 35@36c ₱ lb. Bellair white 37½c; medium 31½c; common 30@31c.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Receipts green meats 1,250 pieces. Feeling are the ruling rates of the market: Sugar-cured hams 12½c; sugar-cured shoulders 7½c; clear sides 7½c; clear sc; clear 8c; rib b. bacon 11c; clear do 10½c; dried beef 10½c; mess pork $16 50; ham sausage 10½c; lard in tierces 9½c, steamed 9½c, kettle 10c; lard in kegs and buckets 10@10½c; pigs' feet per bbl $3 50.

CIDER—XXX $13 00 per bbl; large barrels $11 00a12 00; extra cider $9 00@10 00.

CHEESE—Receipts 52 bxs. We quote New York Goshen at 15c; Ohio do 11c; Ohio Factory 16c; Dairy 14c.

CANDLES—Mould, 11c; sperm, 24c; tallow, 13½c; full weight, 16c; star, 18 ounces, 18c; full weight 19½c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $6 00 for Pennsylvania; other brands $5 00 to $5 50.

CARBON OIL—Standard brands at 21½@22c. Demand active.

CRANBERRIES—Sales Sackett's Bell Berries at $17 00@18 00 ₱ bbl; Jersey, cultivated, $12 00@13 00.

CEMENT—Becoch's Phœnix Hydraulic $6 00@8 75; Johnston $2 25; Rosendale $4 00@4 50; Calcined plaster $4 50; Land plaster, $2 50@3 75 ₱ bbl. Demand fair.

FRUITS—DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN — Dried apples basket; peaches, bright new halves, 9½@10½; old 8@9c; mixed 7½@8½c; quarters 7@8c; currants, new crop, 10c; old 8c; layer raisins, per box, $3 50; half box $1 75; Valencia do 16c; prunes 12½c for new.

EGGS—We quote strictly fresh at 28@33 ₱ dozen; candied 19@20c. The tendency of prices are to lower figures.

FLOUR—We have no change to note in prices. Receipts 1,853 bbls. Following are the ruling quotations: Store—choice amber, bbls $8 25; bags $8; snow flake, bbls $7 75; bags $7 75; Eagle Mills, bbls $7 75; White River, bbls $7 75; bags $7 50; Crossett's spring $7 25; Minnesota, $7 75; rye flour $5 50. Miller—Final, white wheat, bbls $8 00; Pan Handle, southern amber, b ls $7 00; Morning Glory, red winter, bbls $7 50. The quality in production in sacks. Store: amber $8 25 ₱ bbl; Snow Flake $8 00; Eagle Mills $7 50; Lily $7 25; Crossett's $7 25; Island $7 00. Country brands are held firmly at $6 @6 50.

GROCERIES—Trade is reported moderately active at the following quotations:

*Coffee*—Fancy 26c; prime 25c; good 23@24c; fair 23@24c; ordinary 22c; Laguayra 26@27c; Mocha 45c; roasted coffee, loose and in one ₱ packages, 28c ₱ ₱.

*Sugars*—Refined A, 10½c; Pittsburgh granulated and powdered 12¾c, cut loaf 14½c; A c offee 12½c; B 12¼c; C 11¾c; extra C 11½c; yellow 10½@11c; dark 10½@11c.

*Syrups*—Havemeyer & Elder 65c; H. & E. Extra White Diamond 60c; Country brands 50c; Red Head 45c; Lavender 45c; common 35@40c.

*New Orleans Molasses*—New crop, prime, 65c; choice 70c.

*Rice*—Carolina choice 9½c; Rangoon 8c; Patna 8½c.

*Spices*—Pepper grain 23c; pure ground 25c; Cassia bark 50c; cloves 22c; nutmegs $1 85.

*Teas*—Following the influences of the market: Lake herring at $3 25 ₱ half bbl. Whitefish scarce at $6 50 ₱ bbl. Trout packed No. 1 for shore, $20; extra No. 1 bay $15; No. 2 shore, medium, $10; extra $14; No. 3, large, in half bbls $4 75@5 00, and $8 50 in bbls. New Codfish, 5½c for medium, and 7c for large. New Labrador, split, $8 50; no round, $6 50.

GRAIN—Following are the receipts of wheat, rye, corn, oats and barley during the past twenty-four hours:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, sacks | 473 | Corn, sacks | 1,590 |
| Oats, sacks | 3,466 | Rye, sacks | 342 |
| Barley, sacks | 469 | | |

The market rules firm, with no quotable change in prices. Mills take all good lots of wheat offered. We quote red winter, car load lots, at $1 60@1 65, and white at $1 80@1 85, as to quality. Oats under large receipts are weaker; sales of small lots by car have been made at 49@51c for mixed to prime white. Corn—shelled—mixed at 52@53c; prime yellow 60c; car lot, in bulk, 60c; in bags 62½c. Rye—the spring figures are 95@$1. Barley—fall 85@90c; spring 75@85c ₱ bush.

HAY—Car load lots baled at $23@25 per ton as to quality.

HOPS—77s at 60@70c ₱ lb; old 70s 40@44c ₱ lb.

HOGS—In good demand at 2½@2¾c.

HONEY—Sales at $2@2c ₱ lb. Demand limited.

HEMP—Rough Kentucky $165 ₱ ton; single dressed $240; scutched $190@195.

HOMINY—$5 00 ₱ bbl for trade, and $5 50 in a jobbing way.

LARD OIL—No 1 extra 83@85c; No 2, 62@64c; Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained 85@86c.

LIME—Perrysburgh white $2@2 25 ₱ bbl; Cleveland $2 25; Eastern $1 75; Bellaire white $1 50.

MILL FEED—Middlings $1 80@2 ₱ cwt; seconds $1 45@1 75; shorts $1 70@1 80; coarse meal $1 50; feed corn and oats $1 50; chopped rye $2 00; corn meal $1 50 ₱ cwt.

MINCE MEAT—Good brands are held at 12a12½c per lb.

POULTRY—Market dull, dressed turkeys 15a16c; ducks 15a16c; geese [illegible] chickens 14a15c. Few live turkeys in market, and may be quoted at $1 00@1 75.

POTATOES—Prime peachblows command 75a80c ₱ bush.

RAGS—Sales at 4¾@5c ₱ lb. Demand active.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER—Sales of ¼-lb cans at $1 50; ½-lb $1; 1-lb $6 ₱ doz.

SEEDS—Clover, seed $9 00@9 25; timothy seed $3 75 @4 00.

SALT—Car load $1 85; store $2 00.

SUMAC—Sales of Tennessee made at 4½c ₱ lb.

TALLOW—Demand fair with sales at 8a8½c per lb.

WILLOWS—Sales Kentucky at 16c.

WHISKY—Highwines 96c; common rectified 95c; $1 00 @1 02 for medium; $1 05@1 10 for fine and corn $1 60@1 65 ₱ gallon; old Monongahela whisky $4 00 as to as to age.

## IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

February 24.—The market for Scotch pig remains rather quiet, the demand being confined to such parcels as are required to supply the immediate wants of the trade; but the supply is moderate, and full rates are maintained. Sales have been made of 800 tons Langloan, in lots, on private terms, the market closing at $37@40 for Eglinton and $40@41 for Langloan, $41@42 for Glengarnock, and $43 for Coltness. There is very little American obtainable, and as the demand is quite active, prices are firm at the late rates. In our last: 1,500 tons No. 2 Glendon sold at $39 50, at works, which leaves the market bare of this description. We quote No. 1 at $42@43; No. 2 at $40@41, and Forge at $37@40. Of wrought scrap we note sales of 500 tons, to arrive, at $60. The demand for this good regiest, and are steady at quoted rates: 6,500 tons, 56 ₱, English sold, to arrive, on private terms. Bar, &c., from stores, continues strong at the recent à vance, with a fair demand. So far as we know, there are no further changes in Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, and none in Liverpool. Common sheets continue steady and firm.

LONDON, February 24.—The following is condensed from the circular of S. W. Hopkins & Co:

EXPORTS OF RAILS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

| Month ending 31st Jan., | 1870. | 1871. | 1872. |
|---|---|---|---|
| To United States | tons 24,610 | 28,264 | 28,643 |
| To British India | 21,979 | 4,455 | 190 |
| To all other countries | 22,782 | 7,783 | 31,010 |
| Total | tons 67,652 | 40,502 | 59,843 |
| Old iron to all countries | 6,500 | 8,578 | 5,644 |
| Pig iron to United States | 8,603 | 8,221 | 7,995 |

The following is from the monthly circular of Messrs. Sanders Brothers, Liverpool, of February 10:

Iron—Scotch pig. Present quotations for shipping brands, free on board in the Clyde, are—Gartsherrie 85s; Langloan 85s; Glengarnock 91s; Coltness 96s; Calder 85s; Eglinton 83s; Summerlee 95s; Carnbroe 86s 6d; Dalmellington 82s—free on board Liverpool 3s ₱ ton extra. Exports to the United States—January, 1872, 7,995 tons; 1871, 8,221; 1870, 8,603. These figures include all descriptions of pig iron as well as Scotch. Warrants have had an advance of fully 6s ₱ ton has been established in Scotch pig iron, and as all the furnaces are fully engaged for some months ahead, and the above named brands are with difficulty obtained for early shipment, we can only expect higher prices to rule for the next few months. During the winter months, whilst the Baltic ports have been closed, the entire production of the Cleveland district has been sent to Scotland; this will soon cease, and the short supply of Scotch iron will then be more felt than it is at present.

Rails—Welsh, f o b South Wales, £9 5s@£9 10s for heavy sections. Exports to the United States—January, 1872, 28,643 tons; 1871, 28,274; 1870, 24,610. The demand has been extremely good for this and all other descriptions of manufactured iron, notwithstanding rapid rising rates for coal, which in Merchant Iron—Welsh Bars, £9 15s@10 5; Staffordshire Bars, £11 5s@12 15; do Hoops, £12 5s@13, and do Sheets, £13 10s@14 15. Exports to the United States, January, 1872, 2,222 tons; 1871, 4,266; 1870, 4,715. Makers have been again compelled to advance their prices on account of the labor question, and the difficulty of getting coals wherewith to manufacture iron. The leading houses in North Staffordshire advanced their prices 20s. per ton on the 1st inst., and though at full rates orders are not coming in freely, there are many inquiries from outside hands that can be got at a considerable reduction from the makers' quotations for farther specified terms. Prices are likely to be well maintained for some time to come, though a considerable falling off in requirements is at present observable, owing to the large purchases made last autumn, when the prices were far below the present.—*Commercial List.*

| | Morning. | Noon. |
|---|---|---|
| February 24, 1872. | | |
| Tennessee State bonds | 67 | ..... |
| Do. new | 67 | ..... |
| South Carolina, July | 39 | ..... |
| South Carolina, April | 39 | ..... |
| Missouri 6s | ..... | ..... |

February 22.—There have been no transactions in iron at our wharf since our report of Friday, though a great part of what is on our wharf is under orders, and will be shipped on the opening of navigation.

Mills and manufactories busy.

The furnace at Columbus, Ohio, has resumed operations.

Martin's Ferry, of Belmont county, is to have a nail works, a company having just organized for that purpose with a capital of $50,000.

Fulton furnace has 900 tons of iron ready for market; Orange furnace 500 tons, and Star furnace 500, all along the line of the Portsmouth branch of the M. & C. R. R., and awaiting cars to ship.—*Journal.*

PHILADELPHIA.

February 24.—Pig iron continues to meet an active demand, but the furnace generally are sold largely ahead. Sales of 2,000 No 1 foundry at $40@41; No 2 at $39, and gray forge at $36.

Manufactured iron.—Bar iron nearly active as noted at $5 50@5 90 for refined, and $6 25@6 50 for common. Old rails are selling at $36@37 50 for common. Old rails are selling at $36@37 50 for common. Old rails are selling at $36@37

# THE VERY LATEST.

## RAILWAY MATTERS.

**M. C. and S. M. Bonds to be Negotiated in Europe.**

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., February 25, 1872.—W. S. Hecker, Esq., President of the Mansfield, Coldwater and Lake Michigan Railroad Company, left this morning for Philadelphia, having in his possession a million and a half of bonds of the above company. The bonds, after indorsement by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, are to be placed in the European market.

**Railway Meetings—A New Project.**

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LIMA, O., February 25, 1872.

Large meetings have been held the past few weeks in our neighboring towns, Van Wert, Wiltshire, Delphos, Fort Jennings, Kolida and Ottowa, in the interest of the Toledo, Thorntown and St. Louis Railroad. Great enthusiasm was manifested and large subscriptions were made at all these points.

The latest railroad project here, since the Lake Erie and Louisville Railroad has become a settled fact, is a proposed route from Lima through Bellefontaine and Milford Centre to Columbus. This would connect the Hocking Valley Railway with Toledo and Great Northwest, making a short route to the Southwest Ohio coal field, and when the Hocking Valley Railroad is extended to the Ohio River, would connect Lake Erie with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

**A Call Unheeded—Appointment.**

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., February 25, 1872.

A paragraph in the religious intelligence column of the Cincinnati *Commercial* of Saturday, stating that Rev. E. B. Fairfield, of the First Congregational Church of this city, had accepted a call from a Lansing, Michigan, congregation, caused quite a flutter among the Doctor's large circle of friends and admirers here, to whom it was an unwelcome piece of news. The Doctor, however, set the matter at rest this morning, by stating from his pulpit that he had not only not accepted such a call but had never received one.

It is expected that A. J. Mack, a rising young lawyer of this city, will receive from the Court the appointment of Prosecuting Attorney of this county, *vice* J. K. Cowan, resigned.

**Arrest of Thieves at Lima, O.**

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LIMA, O., February 25, 1872.

A thief was arrested here yesterday morning for stealing goods from a freight car of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway. The warehouse of R. Meeheany was also broken open a short time before. At the examination before the Mayor both charges were brought against him, and he plead guilty, giving the name of Chas. DeHaas, which is evidently fictitious. He was remanded to jail in default of $500 bail, on both charges, to await trial. He and John Burke, who was arrested subsequently, were brought before the Mayor charged by a woman named Barr with committing a rape upon her on the same night. Burke was also sent to jail in default of bail. Burke is a hard case and well known.

## ILL-FATED MEXICO.

**Cattle Stealing on the Rio Grande—A Chance for an International Difficulty—Threat to Sink an American Vessel.**

NEW YORK, February 25.—A special from Matamoras of February 23d, says: Gomez Portugal, the revolutionary Governor of Agas Colientás, occupied the city of that name on the 15th instant. A telegram from below San Luis Potosi says that Trevano's army is increasing rapidly. The State of Chihuahua is sending troops to the revolutionists.

A special from Brownsville, Texas, of the 23d, reports that cattle stealing on the Rio Grande has vigorously recommenced. Great indignation prevails among stock raisers.

The Civil and Customs at Matamoras, who is also special civil representative of the Juarist Government, announces his intention of sinking an American river steamer if it clears thence for Camargo, which is now in possession of the revolutionists. An international difficulty is likely to arise out of this question. The commander at Matamoras would oppose this, but the Civil Governor, irresponsible and who hates the Americans, would readily assent to the suggestion of the Collector. General Barney, the American Consular agent here, refuses to give clearance papers until he receives instructions from Washington. If the vessel eventually clears, a difficulty is certain. Many merchants have from the interior are anxious to send their bonded goods into Mexico, and are urging the clearance of the vessel to Camargo as the only safe way.

MATAMORAS, February 25.—A courier extraordinary arrived to-night from San Luis Potosi with letters to the 16th inst., confirming the previously reported death of General Porfeiro Diaz on the mountains of Queretaro on the 12th inst., from dysentery. Diaz's followers have proclaimed Don Tejada Governor Guremon for President. The Juarez government is said to have published a new tariff, which abolishes the Seona Libra on the frontier. General Cornelia has four thousand government troops inside of San Luis Potosi, while Gen. Rocha has fifty-five hundred, with twenty-four pieces of artillery, outside supporting Cornelia. Gen. Guerra, with 11,000 revolutionists, confronts Generals Cornelia and Rocha. Severe fighting has occurred without decisive result, both parties maintaining their grounnd.

## WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 25, 1872.

A DECIDEDLY NOVEL IDEA.

Among the papers recently sought to be filed with the American and British Claims Commission, is a memorial from Mrs. Jane P. Thurston who claims to have made legal purchase of the United States of America, at public auction, at the capitol of the State of Maine, January 5th, 1870, when and whereby, in virtue of her right, she sold and transferred the State of Maine. Accompanying the memorial is a pamphlet entitled "A new art or principle in law for settling national questions without war, discovered and disclosed by Mrs. Jane P. Thurston, proprietor of the United States, to-wit: Forfeiture for breach of covenant or treaty to the party injured."

WANT TO GO TO JAPAN.

Numerous applications continue to be made to Mr. Mori, Japanese Charge D'Affairs, by ladies who want situations in Japan as clerks, teachers and assistants in the Internal Revenue office to be there established.

NORTH CAROLINA SENATORSHIP.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections will to-morrow submit a report regarding the claim of Gen. Abbott to be Senator from North Carolina, the majority against and the minority in favor of his admission. Senator Carpenter, who, with Senator Rice, signed the minority report, will take the necessary action to have the case brought up in discussion on Thursday of this week. Senator Thurman, it is understood, will lead in support of the majority report, and the debate will probably last for several days.

CONVALESCING.

Garrett Davis is so much better that his physician believes he will be able to return to his home in Kentucky next week.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Was in Committee of the Whole to-day for speech-making. The attendance was small and the proceedings uninteresting.

## THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, February 25, 1872, 7 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

The area of high barometer over the upper lakes will probaby move East and South-eastward, extending with clear weather on Monday throughout the Atlantic States; rising temperature with increasing southerly winds prevail on Monday on the upper lakes to the Gulf; an area of low barometer with attending winds circulating around it pass eastward over Missouri, and thereafter possibly with snow prevail northward to Minnesota; southerly winds with partially cloudy weather prevail Monday from Texas to Alabama. Dangerous winds are not anticipated for Sunday evening, other than brisk westerly winds in the middle and eastern States.

**Three Murderers Attempt to Escape from Jail—One Killed.**

DENVER, COL., February 24.—This forenoon about a quarter past eleven o'clock three prisoners in the county jail, named Griswold, Wright and Hill, all of them in for murder, overpowered Davis, the turnkey, took away his revolver, and shot him in the back part of the head, but not fatally. Another of Davis' men, a young man seventeen years old, was in the office, went to the rescue, and encountered Griswold in the passage-way leading to the cells. They exchanged shots, Griswold being hit in the breast, from which he died in a few minutes; the other was not hurt. Wright, the other prisoner escaped by lay-lofts in the rear of the jail, where he was stirred up by a negro with a pitchfork and recaptured. There is strong talk of lynching Wright, who is one of the murderers of Wall, is considered a very desperate character, and was probably the instigator of this outrage.

## NEWS SUMMARY.

*BY TELEGRAPH.*

William Cullen Bryant sailed from Havana for Vera Cruz on Saturday.

Eight freight cars belonging to the Indianapolis Railroad, with their contents, principally dry goods, were burned on the track in East St. Louis, yesterday. Loss reported at about $25,000.

The Bellefonte Mills, in Cranston, R. I., owned by Andrew Chambers, and run for the manufacture of wadding and bleaching of waste, were burned on Saturday. Loss $30,000; insurance $10,000. One of the buildings burned was about a century old, and was the first manufactory of wad cloth in America.

## FROM MOUNT PLEASANT.

**Mount Pleasant Classical and Scientific Institute.**

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

MOUNT PLEASANT, PA., February 24, 1872.

As many of your readers are interested in this school, I wish to make a few statements concerning it. It was incorporated by act of Assembly approved March 15, 1871, under the name of "Western Pennsylvania Classical and Scientific Institute at Mount Pleasant." At the Scientific Institute at Mount Pleasant." At the time of incorporation, the Board of Trustees did not expect to be able to open a school until buildings were erected, which could not have been done sooner than the spring or summer of 1873. An arrangement has since been made which makes this delay unnecessary, and enables the friends of this institution to speak of it as existing not only "in law" but in fact. About three weeks since the building known as the Mount Pleasant College was purchased. It is a substantial brick, eighty feet by forty feet, two stories high, located on a beautiful eminence overlooking the borough of Mt. Pleasant and a large portion of the surrounding country. In the same purchase was included a building designed for a students' boarding house, capable of accommodating sixteen to twenty boarders. This latter building will be enlarged at as early a date as possible. Meanwhile, the best arrangements will be made for the accommodation of students from a distance. The teachers who had charge of the school at the time the deed was made to the last purchasers—Messrs. McCreary and Smith, with their assistants—will continue during the spring and summer terms. They are gentlemen in every respect worthy of the positions they occupy, and deserving of public confidence. The board of trustees are now in correspondence with several persons recognized as being among the best educators of the country, with a view to securing a corps of instructors with which to open the fall term. Judging from the character of the men composing the Board of Trustees, the writer feels safe in saying that no pains will be spared to make this school in every respect worthy of the name it has assumed. Let the friends of this enterprise come to its aid. It is important that the endowment be increased to $100,000 at as early a date as possible. Additional bfildings will be needed also, as the number of students increases.

This work appeals especially to every Baptist in Western Pennsylvania. It is impossible to estimate the importance of this institution to the cause of Christian education. Our educational work as a denomination should claim more of our attention. Unless we provide for the maintenance of schools of a high grade among us, we neglect to do our part in the great work of strengthening those agencies by which the highest interests of society are to be maintained. C.

About a year ago we gave a description of a "Moabite Stone," discovered in Palestine a short time before, covered with Sinaitic inscriptions which on translation were found to bear a most remarkable resemblance to certain passages in the books of Moses. The discovery of a second stone of similar character—thirty-six by eighteen inches—is now announced as having been made among the ruins of Medeba, seven miles south of Heshbon, and fifteen miles north of Dibon. A competent scholar is said to have translated the characters, "almost identical in form with the Sinaitic letters," to have made them yield the following result: "We drove them away—the people of Ar Moab at the marsh ground. There they made a thank-offering to God their king; and Jeshuren rejoiced, as also Moses their leader." If any one will compare these words with Numbers xxi. 13-15, 21-30; Joshua xiii. 9, 15, 16, he will be struck with certain coincidences; and he will think it quite possible that "Ar Moab at the marsh ground" is the same as "the city that is in the midst of the river," or on the delta formed by the two rivers which flow into the Arnon. The London *Times*, which announces the discovery, states that the inscriptions will soon be examined by a commission of scholars, who in due time will render a report upon the subject.

An eminent London metallurgist has published a pamphlet upon the method of manufacturing Russia sheet-iron, which, as is well known, is distinguished from common sheet iron in having a smooth, glossy surface, of a dark metallic gray, and not a bluish gray. When bent backwards and forwards by the hand no scale is separated, as happens with sheet-iron manufactured by rolling in the usual manner, but in folding it over and unfolding, it simply scales from the line of folding. The method of preparing this sheet-iron has been kept a profound secret by the Russian manufacturers for a long period of time, but by a careful collation of information given by various correspondents, the general theory of the manufacture has been ascertained and published in such form as to be capable of practical application. One point in the preparation of the iron is said to be that, after the completion of the rolling, the sheets are made up into packages with charcoal dust interposed, and then well hammered, the outer sheets being afterwards thrown away as waste.

## RIVER REPORT.

*War Department, Signal Service, U. S. A., Division of Telegrams and Reports for the Benefit of Commerce.*

February 25, 1872, 4:23 P. M.

| Stations. | Rise. Feet. | Inch. | Fall. Feet. | Inch. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cairo, Ills. | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Cincinnati, Ohio. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Louisville, Ky. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Memphis, Tenn. | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Nashville, Tenn. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| New Orleans, La. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pittsburgh, Pa. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Shreveport, La. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| St. Louis, Mo. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| St. Paul, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Vicksburg, Miss. | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |

*Rise and fall in last twenty-four hours.
Dash — Indicates river closed.
No report.

**ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.**

**Cincinnati.**

CINCINNATI, February 25.—River stationary at fifteen feet six inches. No arrivals or departures except packets.

**Louisville.**

LOUISVILLE, February 25.—River falling slowly; seven feet in the canal, three feet in the chutes. Cloudy, damp and chilly. Arrived—Bergantia, Alice Dean, Abeona, J. E. Rankin, Cincinnati; Liberty and barges, Eddyville, Nashville; Sampson and barges, Evansville; Eddyville, J. E. Rankin, falls, Nashville; Sampson and barges, Pittsburgh; Abeona, falls, Tennessee river; Alice Dean, canal, New Orleans. Wharfage receipts for the week ending Saturday were $700. The gas of the new works is all in place, and the mud is being rapidly cleaned out of the new canal. It will probably be able to pass through to-morrow or next day. The Glasgow will commence receiving to-morrow for White river.

**Evansville.**

EVANSVILLE, February 25.—Clear and mild; mercury 48. River falling slowly. Port list—down: Sam J. Hale and Edinburgh, 9 P. M.; Falls City, 10 P. M.; Andes, 1 P. M.; Nightingale, 7 P. M.; Tennessee, 3 P. M.; Bowling Green, 8 P. M. Up: Arkansas Belle, 11 A. M.; Kanawha No. 2, 9 P. M. Business fair. The Thompson Dean takes 1,200 tons here, and will leave to-night.

**Cairo.**

CAIRO, February 25.—Arrived—Quickstep, Evansville, 10 P. M.; Pink Varble, Evansville, 4 A. M.; Kate Robinson, Memphis, 8 A. M. Up: Ike Shore, Memphis, St. Louis, 27 P. M.; St. Luke, St. Louis, Departed—Marble City, St. Louis, 9 P. M.; Tyrone, Nashville; Quickstep, Evansville, 1 P. M.; H. M. Turner, New Orleans; Kate Kenny, New Orleans; Pink Varble, Arkansas river; Kate Robinson, Evansville; Wm. Lewis, St. Louis; H. M. Shreve, Red river. The river has risen ten inches.

**Memphis.**

MEMPHIS, February 25.—Clear and pleasant. River rose ten inches. Arrived—Commercial, Evansville. Departed—Ida Howard, St. Louis.

**St. Louis.**

ST. LOUIS, February 25.—Arrived—Atlantic, New Orleans; Glandes and Yazoo, Memphis; Lady Lee, Red river; Emilie Labarge, New Orleans. Departed—Sallie Arkansas river; Colossal and Continental, New Orleans; City of Chester, Memphis; Osanus, Red river. River rising, with a reported depth of water to Cairo of four feet. Weather clear and cooler. The wharfboat of the Arkansas and Red river packet lines was burned this morning, but was raised again; no freight damaged. Boats will leave for Missouri river on Wednesday, and very soon for the Illinois and to Quincy and Keokuk.

**New Orleans Market.**

NEW ORLEANS, February 24.—Sugar, Molasses, whisky and coffee unchanged.

## CITY MATTERS.

### METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

**Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.**

MONDAY, February 25, 11:23 P. M.

| PLACE OF OBSERVATION. | Height of Sea | Thermometer. Change in 24 hrs | Thermometer. Change in 24 hrs | Direction of wind | Velocity | Pressure | Force, approx | Weather |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buffalo, N. Y. | 30.16 | 39 | 21 | 21 | N.W. | 14 | .98 | (3) |
| Cairo. | 30.17 | 63 | 42 | 7 | N. E. | 9 | .40 | (1) |
| Chicago, Ill. | 30.22 | 34 | 23 | 20 | N. E. | 22 | .74 | (3) |
| Cincinnati, O. | 30.27 | 48 | 35 | 10 | N. E. | 21 | .62 | B |
| Cleveland, O. | 30.34 | 37 | 18 | 18 | N. E. | 21 | .62 | B |
| Davenport, Iowa. | 30.29 | 12 | 24 | 6 | N. E. | 12 | .72 | (3) |
| Detroit, Mich. | 30.30 | 37 | 20 | 20 | N. E. | 7 | .81 | (2) |
| Louisville, Ky. | 30.19 | 67 | 38 | 10 | N. E. | 1 | .... | B |
| Memphis, Tenn. | 30.08 | 49 | 37 | 7 | N. E. | 1 | .08 | B |
| Nashville, Tenn. | 30.17 | 61 | 39 | 7 | N. E. | 8 | .18 | (1) |
| New Orleans, La. | 30.06 | 56 | 37 | 6 | N. E. | 6 | .18 | (1) |
| Pittsburgh, Pa. | 30.32 | | 26 | | S. W. | 4 | .08 | B |
| Shreveport, La. | 30.13 | 21 | 36 | 7 | S. E. | 7 | .50 | B |
| St. Louis, Mo. | 30.13 | 60 | 36 | 11 | N. E. | 10 | .50 | (3) |
| St. Paul, Minn. | 30.31 | 21 | 30 | 10 | N. E. | 11 | .50 | (3) |
| Vicksburg. | 30.01 | 64 | 61 | 3 | S. E. | 6 | .18 | (1) |

Character of the winds to save space is indicated by the letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, calm; B, gentle; C, fresh or brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, hurricane; J, broad violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numerals, as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, cloudy; 4, light rain; 5, heavy rain; 6, snow.

Reports received over the wires of the Western Union, Northwestern and International Ocean Telegraph companies.

In the columns noting changes in the barometer and thermometer the minus sign only is used.

### *Arrest and Attempted Rescue.*

On Saturday night one James O'Neill entered a private house in the Twelfth ward, where there was no one at home but a widow lady. She was greatly frightened. O'Neill being drunk, and ran out of a side door and cried "police." Officer Colson promptly responded and took O'Neill into custody. On the way to the lock-up, other Timmons, Dunn interfered and attempted to rescue O'Neill, which arrest only resulted in himself being made a prisoner. Both defendants were before the Mayor yesterday morning, when O'Neill was fined fifty dollars, and in default sent to the Work House for thirty days. Dunn was fined twenty-five dollars and costs, which was paid during yesterday afternoon, when he was released.

## DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION.

### The American Iron Works Partially Destroyed.

**The New Mill, Spike and Bolt Factory, Foundry and Pattern Shop in Ruins—Estimated Loss Between $200,000 and $300,000—Insurance $100,000.**

On Saturday evening a disastrous fire occurred in Ormsby borough, resulting in the partial destruction of the American Iron Works. The flames spread rapidly, and at one time it was feared the entire works would be destroyed, but this was only prevented by a favorable wind, as the firemen had but little control over the flames. The works were the most extensive of the kind in the country, embracing an area of twenty acres. All the buildings of the several departments were large and substantial, and were complete in every particular.

The flames were first discovered by one of the watchmen, a few minutes before nine o'clock, near furnace No. 2, in that part of the works known as the new mill. He immediately gave an alarm, which was promptly responded to, but so rapid was the progress of the flames that by the time the firemen arrived the building was enveloped in a sheet of fire. The flames then spread to the spike factory, which soon succumbed to the devouring element. The next building reached by the flames was the extensive foundry, which shared the fate of the other structures. The pattern and carpenter shops were next reached and soon were in ruins. A long row of frame buildings owned by the company was at one time in great danger, but through the exertions of the firemen they were saved.

The new mill in which the fire originated was erected about eight years ago, on the line of the river. The structure was about 150x400 feet, and 30 feet in height, and was used in the manufacture of sheet and merchant iron. The building contained fourteen heating furnaces, five trains of rolls, two sheet and four merchant iron mills. One line of new and improved shafting ran through the building, near the roof, and was run by a new and improved engine of seven hundred horse power, which was located in the upper part of the building. This structure was totally destroyed, and almost all the machinery, except some of the rolls. The steam-engine is believed to be but slightly damaged. Parallel with this building was

THE SPIKE FACTORY,

which was about the same size as the new mill. The building contained ten spike and four bolt machines, twenty-five screw cutters, two large nut tuchdecks, and two engines. This building was also destroyed, together with most of the machinery. Parallel with this building were the nail factory and machine shop, which fortunately were saved. The machine shop is one of the largest in the country, and contains the latest and most improved machinery, and its destruction would have entailed serious loss. Passing these buildings the flames spread to the foundry, which is located at right angles with the spike factory. The foundry was a one-story structure, about 100 by 200 feet, and was totally destroyed with all its contents. Just above this building were the brass foundry, the pattern and carpenter shops, and also the boiler house, all of which were destroyed. The brass foundry was a small building, about 30 by 40 feet, and did not contain any valuable machinery. The pattern and carpenter shops were each 30 by 50 feet and three stories in height. The pattern shop contained all the patterns that have been made in the works the past sixteen years, and they were invaluable, as many of them can never be replaced. Fortunately the firm have the plans of some of the patterns destroyed, which will greatly assist in warding off some of the losses incurred. These buildings composed all that were destroyed by the fiery element, and covered about three acres, embracing about one-fourth of the works.

THE LOSS AND INSURANCE.

The loss has not been definitely ascertained, but it is estimated by the proprietors to be between $200,000 and 300,000. As some of the most valuable machinery is believed to be only slightly damaged, and also a large amount of stock, the loss may not exceed $200,000. The insurance is about $100,000, mostly in foreign companies, only $15,000 to $10,000 being in home companies. The insurance is distributed among a large number of companies, $5,000 is held for over $5,000. The firm were unable to give the names of any of the insurance companies yesterday, as they had not access to the books. The

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE

has not been definitely ascertained. As has already been stated, the fire was first seen in the vicinity of furnace No. 2 in the new mill, and it is supposed to have caught from the gases communicated with some wood work near the furnace, and the watchman not passing through that part of the building for a short time after the fire had been burning for several hours, and at the time stated broke out.

Messrs. Jones & Laughlin, the owners of the works have been in receipt of large orders within the past few weeks, but the fire will not prevent them filling all their contracts with but little delay. They propose to commence building immediately, and expect to have all buildings erected and in operation within sixty days. No men will be thrown out of employment, as more are required in the other departments of the works which have not been destroyed and the remainder will be employed in removing the debris. Fortunately the building that will be experienced in running the other departments is the supply of coal. The trestle work from the coal works to the mill ran through the flaming buildings and was badly burned. The coal will, therefore, have to be hauled to the old mill about two weeks, when the firm expect to have the trestle work rebuilt. The firm employ about 2,500 men in all the departments, and in the buildings destroyed there were between 600 and 600 men employed.

The firm some time ago purchased a saw mill about a square above the works, which has been refitted and extensive additions made. This will be used as a carpenter and pattern shop, and work will be commenced here this morning.

During the progress of the fire, Mr. Laughlin, a member of the firm, repaired to the Duquesne Engine house, and requested Chief Engineer Cupples to send over a number of engines. The request was complied with, and in an astonishingly short space of time the Duquesne, Iagalist steamers were on the scene of the conflagration. On arriving at the fire, however, they were not treated very courteously. They attached their hose to a plug, but had no sooner done this than the firemen ordered to detach their hose by one of the firemen on the South Side. Being unable to secure another plug Chief Cupples ordered them to return to the city.

### *NO MORE ORPHAN'S FAIRS.*

### *A Stir at the Cathedral—Large Investments and Small Returns.*

At both the morning masses at the Cathedral, yesterday, Rev. Father Hickey, pursuant to announcement previously made, gave an exhibit of the financial result of last Orphan's Fair, which was as follows:

RECEIPTS FROM TABLES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Scapular, rosary and altar tables..... | $ 1,677 50 |
| Sunday school table..... | 688 53 |
| Young Ladies' Sodality table..... | 2,600 00 |
| Ancient Order Hibernians..... | 1,869 70 |
| Refreshment table..... | 348 46 |
| Sundries..... | 3,895 45 |
| Young Men's Sodality table..... | No return. |
| Total..... | $11,070 62 |
| Door receipts..... | 2,875 00 |
| Door expenses, including gas, carpenter work, police watchmen, &c..... | 1,197 40 |
| Net receipts..... | $ 1,677 60 |

The reverend gentleman then went into a general resume of the management and conduct of orphans' fairs as conducted of late years, denouncing the manner and mode of conducting them, and stated that hereafter no fairs, balls, picnics or parties, should be held with the sanction of the church for charitable purposes. Father Hickey was of opinion that there were a great many abuses connected with the fair. Many of the persons who "aided" in making the fair a "success" had really made more money themselves than had the orphans. The address was listened to with marked attention and created quite a stir among the congregation.

### *THE PROPOSED NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.*

### *Revenue Paid the Government by This and Other Cities.*

A very excellent reason why Congress should not offer any opposition to the effort being made to secure an appropriation for the erection of new government buildings in this city, will be found in the fact that Pittsburgh during the last fiscal year, returned to the National Treasury revenue to the amount of $1,972,842. The following table gives the revenue derived from other cities, for comparison.

| | |
|---|---|
| San Francisco..... | $2,824,940 |
| Hartford..... | 376,571 |
| New Haven..... | 376,938 |
| Chicago..... | 7,209,582 |
| Quincy, Illinois..... | 1,233,013 |
| Indianapolis..... | 370,593 |
| Louisville..... | 2,065,484 |
| New Orleans..... | 1,733,746 |
| Portland..... | 210,176 |
| Detroit..... | 1,305,597 |
| Cincinnati..... | 5,973,051 |

Cincinnati, Portland, Quincy and other of the cities named have all delegations of citizens at Washington, at present, aiding and abetting their representatives in the securing of money for new or additional government buildings. It is hoped that the Pittsburgh Committee, appointed at the meeting of Saturday, will meet with every success.

### *The West Penn Road.*

A large increase of business on the Western Pennsylvania Railroad is anticipated this spring. On this road the company will begin to run four tracks to Herrs, and will make a double track to Sharpsburg as soon as possible. The Isabella Furnace Company will itself create a heavy business on the west end of the road. Arrangements have also been made for running one hundred cars a day off the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad, at Mingo Junction, for shipment over the West Penn. These changes will make business on the line quite brisk.

## PROBABLE MURDER.

### *Affray at a House of Questionable Reputation—A Man Stabbed in Three Places—He Will Probably Die—A Dying Deposition—Arrest of the Assailant.*

At a late hour on Saturday night an affray occurred at a house of questionable reputation on Twentieth street, near the Allegheny Valley Railroad, which may yet prove of a fatal nature. The injured man in the affair is Francis J. Holtzman, who, it appears, was out in several places by a man named Owen Peter Corry, at the house of Margaret Gilchrist. Yesterday morning His Honor, Mayor Blackmore, visited the wounded man, and from him obtained the following deposition, which sets forth nearly all the particulars:

*Allegheny County, ss.:* I, Francis J. Holtzman, being duly sworn by James Blackmore, Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh, and asked to make a true statement as to how and where I received my present injuries, and being entirely conscious of all that occurred, and believing I will not recover, and that death will ensue, do solemnly declare and depose as follows:

Between 11 and 12 P. M., February 24th, 1872, myself and two others proceeded to Mag. Gilchrist's house on Twentieth street, near the Allegheny Valley Railroad. We went in there and sat down for the purpose of enjoying ourselves. At that time present were Joseph McAfee, "English Sue" and the two young men who were with me and Mrs. Gilchrist's son were there. We had not been there more than half an hour when a rap came to the door and Mag. Gilchrist went to the door and asked "Who's there" It was answered by a rough voice, "It is a friend." She said, "I want no friends, my husband is here." He answered, "I know a — sight better." She told him if he did not leave the door she would have him arrested. Joseph McAfee and I went to the door and told him that that was enough of that hammering. I said to Joe, "Open the door and put them away, thinking two men were at the door." Mag said, "Don't open the door, I don't want any fighting here." He said, "You must open the door." She then opened the door, and Joe said, "Pete, that's enough of that." Pete had Joe in his arms, and I went up and was in the act of helping Joe when he made one thrust at me and followed it up with a second and third. Can't tell where he cut me first. Joe and I ran to Railroad street and he pursued us; ran up Railroad street and he followed us to the foundry and stopped, and we ran on to Twenty-first street. I then asked Joe to get me to a doctor. My clothes were wet with blood. He took me to McCune's drug store and they looked at my wounds. Lieutenant Hager ran for a doctor. I was exhausted then and lay on the floor. The doctor tried to put my bowels in place did not do much, but sent to get a spring wagon to send me to the Station House. The wagon came and they took me to my mother's house; never had any trouble with the man who cut me before.

Sworn before me, James Blackmore, Mayor, February 25, 1872.

his
FRANCIS G. X HOLTZMAN.
mark.

The parties engaged in this affray are young men named Reynolds, residents of the Twelfth ward, and have not been noted as of a particularly disorderly character heretofore. Officer Scott and Strain arrested Corry yesterday morning, and he has been locked up to await the result of Holtzman's injuries.

Mayor Blackmore and his police, deserve great credit for the apprehension of the aggressor in the case.

The house where the cutting occurred does not enjoy the best of reputation. The head of the establishment, Hamilton Gilchrist, was sent to jail not many days ago, be Mayor Blackmore, on a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct, where he still remains.

The injured man received three wounds, two in the abdomen and one in the thigh. Dr. Duncan is attending him, but at a late hour last night had but little hopes of his recovery.

Since the above was put in type, the authorities have sent fo it arrest Joseph McAfee, who accompanied him to the Gilchrist mansion. He was locked up to await future disposition.

At two o'clock this morning it was feared by the physician in attendance on Holtzman that inflammation would ensue, in which case the wounds would naturally result fatally.

## THE SEMPLE ROBBERY.

### *Arrest of Two Men on Suspicion of Being Connected With the Robbery—The Watchman Released.*

On Saturday the police arrested two men on suspicion of being the parties who entered Semple's dry goods store on Tuesday night, and succeeded in robbing the safe of $1,400. Ever since the robbery Chief Clark has been actively engaged in efforts to discover the perpetrators, and the clue upon which he was working has led to the arrest of two parties who are supposed to have been engaged in the transaction. They are named Joseph Krozier and John Gorman. Krozier was arrested on Market street, near the Diamond, between three and four o'clock on Saturday morning, and Gorman was arrested on Fifth avenue about twelve o'clock Friday night. From the statement made by Chief Clark it appears that he had spotted Krozier as a suspicious character, and on the very night of the robbery he had directed Officers Weir and Hughes to keep a watch on his movements. Krozier was observed passing and repassing the store, and also going through North alley, upon the corner of which the building is located.

Gorman was arrested on the descriptions given by the watchman of the number of men who held him by the throat. The parties had a hearing Saturday evening. There was a very large crowd in the lobby, and the chief, in order that the prisoners should not be cognizant of the evidence against them, conveyed him to a point about the middle of the crowd, and then inquired of the watchman whether any of the burglars were present. The watchman scanned the crowd closely a few minutes, when he suddenly lit on the prisoner and said, "Here's the man." The suspicion that Krozier was the other party concerned in the burglary is grounded on the fact that he was seen lurking around the premises the entire night of the robbery. After the examination of a number of witnesses the parties were held for a further hearing this evening.

## FIFTH AVENUE.

### *The Matter of Further Improving It.*

The condition of Fifth avenue from the bridge at Soho to Oakland has created no small amount of talk of a more expressive than beautiful nature. The matter of improving it is up before the people again, but whether the cost thereof is to be paid under the provisions of the Penn avenue act or not, has not been definitely arrived at. There are many owners of real estate living on the avenues crossing the main thoroughfare, and some influence in the city, it is very probable, would contribute a proportionate amount of the necessary assessment for the object in view.

By some it is feared that even if the Penn avenue act was so amended as to cover the territory not upon, but adjacent to, Fifth avenue, that it would not prove legal before the Supreme Court.

The matter will likely come up in Council's to-day session, and it will be asked to recommended our delegation in Harrisburg to press the passage of a supplement authorizing the Commissioners for the improvement of Fifth avenue under the provisions of the Penn avenue act to assess the cost of said improvement upon the property benefitted thereby.

### *Young Men's Christian Association.*

At the monthly business meeting of the Y. M. C. A., held at their rooms, corner of Fifth and Sixth streets, on Saturday evening last, the attendance was good, showing the interest not only of those actively engaged in the work, but of the general community.

The meeting was opened with prayer, reading of scriptures, &c., after which the proceedings of the Board of Directors were presented, and reports of the various committees received. Among the reports was that of the Noon-day Prayer Meeting Committee, stating that the attendance during the past month had been unusually low for two or three years; that many of the Music Committee showed that arrangements were in progress for two or three free concerts, and the Lecture Committee announced that Hon. T. J. Bingham, Rev. W. T. Beatty, Dr. James King, Dr. R. S. Sutton and Wm. Blakewell had consented to lecture during the winter, and that Prof. J. R. Newell would give an evening of select reading.

After reports of committees, Prof. Wm. Johnson, who is connected with the Y. M. C. A. Taggart, have been holding a series of association conventions through the State, gave some interesting incidents in relation to the meetings held in the various portions of the State, after which Rev. G. G. Westfall, of the First Methodist Church of Allegheny, delivered a short address on the subject of Christianity does not contradict reason," which was listened to with marked attention and fully repaid all present at the meeting.

On motion, the meeting adjourned. These meetings, as will be seen by the above report, are not merely dry business meetings, as their name would seem to indicate, but in these instances are so varied that all who come are entertained.

### *Cane Presentation.*

On Friday evening, shortly after nine o'clock, a number of the friends of William B. Ross, Esq., of the Sixth ward, Allegheny, went to his residence at Beaver avenue and Adams street, and presented him with a handsomely carved ebony cane, as a token of their appreciation of his efforts to suppress the sale of liquor on Sunday. A meeting was organized by calling Mr. R. H. Knox to the chair, and appointing Mr. William Trimble as Secretary. G. R. Coltran, Esq., presented the cane on behalf of the donors, and Mr. Ross made a neat reply. He said the testimonial was the more highly appreciated because it was an evidence that his course received the endorsement of the law-abiding citizens of the wards. Mr. R. H. Knox also made a brief address, after which refreshments were served up. The company was entertained with some excellent music by Mr. Ross' sons and daughters, after which they adjourned.

### *Off the Track.*

On Saturday a couple of cars were thrown from the track of the Connellsville Railroad not a great distance from the city. A broken rail caused the accident. The two cars were smashed considerably, but, fortunately, no one was injured.

## COURT PROCEEDINGS.

**Common Pleas—Judges Sterrett, Stowe and Collier.**

THE TWO WARRANTS AGAINST ALDERMAN KERR.

The question as to whether an alderman can reside in one ward and hold office in another has been finally decided. At the instance of the Attorney General, a rule had been granted on Alderman R. H. Kerr, to show cause why a writ of *quo warranto* should not issue against him—the point being raised that, as a resident of McClure township, he could not hold the office of alderman in the Ninth ward, Allegheny. The points in the case were fully argued some ten days ago. On Saturday Judge Sterrett rendered a decision in favor of the respondent. The Judge remarks: "We are satisfied that there is nothing in the constitution or the laws of the State that invalidates the election of respondent on the ground that he was not an elector and resident of the ward at the time of the election."

The next question is whether, after his election, the respondent was required, by law, to reside, as well as keep his office, in the Ninth ward. This the Court decides he was not; the act of 1802, under which the movers against Alderman Kerr expected to oust him, expressly stating that justices of the peace must comply with that requirement, while it says nothing about alderman. The second section of the act refers to both, and requires them to have their stated offices elsewhere than in taverns or public houses of entertainment. This, in the opinion of the Court, entirely frees aldermen from the operations of the first section referring to justices and where they shall reside.

The opinion closes in these words: "Without pursuing the subject further, we are of the opinion that there is nothing in the suggestion that would justify the issuing of the writ. The rule to show cause is therefore dismissed."

VIEWERS APPOINTED.

The petition of Thomas and Joseph McClurg was presented, setting forth that the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railway Company required, for right of way, certain portions of their property; that the parties were unable to agree as to terms, and desired the appointment of viewers to assess damages. The Court appointed Messrs. R. B. Carnahan, T. H. Nevin, R. C. Loomis, W. G. Hawkins, Jr., George Fortune, Aaron Floyd and Reuben Miller.

CHARTERS APPLIED FOR.

Applications for charters of incorporation were made for the Mount Oliver German Mutual Insurance Company, and the First U. P. Church, Allegheny.

THE ARGUMENT LIST.

The hearing of cases on the argument list will be resumed in this Court this morning.

**District Court—Judges Hampton and Kirkpatrick.**

No business of importance was transacted in this Court on Saturday. Judge Kirkpatrick's side will take up the following trial list for this morning:

201. E. C. White vs. N. Ballentine.
169. M. Campbell et ux. vs. Henry Weaver et al.
10. German Security Bank vs. E. W. McGinnis.
15. James Rees vs. Jno. Tomlinson & Son.
28. Alex. Jonas vs. Thos. Sinclair.
3. Jos. Ross vs. Wm